

26 **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

27 **Claims 1 - 16 (canceled)**

28 **Claim 17. (previously presented) A materials retaining berm system comprising:**

29 a. at least three elongated panels each having a top edge, bottom edge,

30 first and second faces, first and second ends, and first and second joining

31 means located on the first face at said first and second ends; and

32 b. said joining means being joining hooks further comprising a portion fixedly
33 attached to and extending from said first panel face a portion fixedly attached to the
34 distal edge of said extending joining hook portion and spaced apart from said first panel
35 face, and extending toward the center, and approximately parallel to said first
36 elongated panel face, thereby forming a slot for receiving a joining clip; and

37 c. at least three joining clips for removably joining two said panels, said
38 joining clips having first and second end portions adapted to engage said
39 extending portion of the joining hooks of adjacent panels and to occupy
40 the slots; and

41 d. whereby said panels connected by said joining clips define an enclosed
42 space for retaining materials therein.

43 **Claim 18. (previously presented) The materials retaining berm system of claim 17**
44 **where said joining means is a channel oriented transversely to the axis of said**
45 **elongated panel for receiving a cooperating joining clip; and**

46 at least three joining clips for removably joining two said panels, said joining clips
47 having first and second end portions bent approximately at right angles to a portion
48 extending between and attached to said end portions, where said end portions of said
49 joining clips cooperate with said channels to join two said elongated panels.

50 Claim 19. (previously presented) The material retaining berm of claim 17 where
51 said joining clip is comprised of a central portion having retro bends of
52 approximately 360 degrees on opposing ends of said central portion, thereby
53 forming hooks adapted to cooperatively engage the inward facing hooks on the
54 ends of said elongated panels.

55 Claims 20 - 27 (Canceled)

56 Respectfully submitted,

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